

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7 and 9-28 are pending in the application. Claims 5 and 8 were previously canceled. Claim 6 is canceled herein. Claims 13-21 and 24-28 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 6, now canceled.

Claims 7 and 9 are amended to depend on Claim 1.

Claim 12 is amended to be rewritten in independent form, to delete "inorganic fiber", and to incorporate the subject matter of Claim 6.

No new matter is added.

Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Response to Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claims 1-10¹, 12, and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over Yoshikawa et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,872,932) in view of Marshall et al (U.S. Pat. No. 4,397,985), for the reasons of record.

B. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over Yoshikawa et al in view of Marshall et al, further in view of Shindo et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,049,447), for the reasons of record.

¹ It appears that the Examiner may have inadvertently included previously canceled Claims 5 and 8 in this rejection.